

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Vol. 101 No. 26

Sunday, February 28, 2010

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To the rescue...

Members of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) Special Response Team use the cover of dense green smoke to storm a home and rescue a female hostage during a training exercise held Friday morning, Feb. 26. For more on the story, see page 20.



County budget looking bleak

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee news

From comments made at the last meeting of Okeechobee County Commissioners, it looks like the budget battle for the coming fiscal year is about to begin.

Up until a few years ago, bud-
See BUDGET — Page 2

Historic trail



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
The Annual Florida Cracker Trail Ride passed through Okeechobee County last week. The ride, sponsored by the Florida Cracker Trail Association, is conducted along side of public roads, private ranches and some public conservation land. The ride begins east of Bradenton and ends in Ft. Pierce, and is held the last week in February each year. For more on the Cracker Trail Ride, see page 12.

Judge throws out FSB lawsuit

Boys reportedly were abused at Florida School for Boys in the 1940s, '50s and '60s

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

"When I came home from Vietnam I felt my country had betrayed me, and now the justice system has done the same thing."

Bryant Middleton, who was one of the many boys beaten and sodomized at the Florida School for Boys in Marianna and Okeechobee, was speaking about a class action lawsuit against the State of Florida that was dismissed Tuesday, Feb. 23, in a Tallahassee courtroom.

Circuit Judge James Shelfer's dismissal was based on the premise "... that while there are constitutional rights violations, you cannot recover monetary damages for those violations," explained Greg Hoag, a St. Petersburg attorney who was one of the lawyers representing the men who were brutalized in the schools.

"I feel betrayed by the courts," said Mr. Middleton, from his Fort Walton Beach home Friday. "I feel betrayed by the judges and I feel betrayed by the state of Florida—

See FSB — Page 8

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BUDGET

Continued From Page 1

get hearings were dull and boring with no public interest or participation. The last few years they have gotten increasingly interesting as the economy gets tougher.

At the last commission meeting on Feb. 25, deputy county administrator Robbie Chartier reported that as of Jan. 31, revenues exceeded expenditures by 17 percent as compared to the budget. However, that trend is not expected to continue through the year. At the beginning of the year the vast majority of ad valorem taxes are received. As the year continues the county's income is expected to decrease while expenditures increase.

County administrator Lyndon Bonner predicted a shortfall of \$2.8 to \$4.2 million in the fiscal year 2010-2011 budget.

Part of that shortfall is caused by a last minute move by county commissioners in the preparation of the current budget. A move was made which looked good to voters at the time. However, they may not have realized the long range consequences.

The emergency medical services (EMS) assessment, new with this year's budget, brought a storm of controversy. The consultants who prepared the assessment rates took the entire cost of the EMS program and apportioned it among residential, commercial and industrial properties.

Voters flocked to public hearings to protest the proposed EMS assessment. In response to these protests, commissioners voted to exempt churches and other non-profits from the assessment. At the same time they cut everyone else's assessment in

half.

The proposed millage rate was 7.6530. Commissioners voted to lower the millage rate to 7.5030. That rate, taking into consideration decreased property values, was calculated to bring in the same amount of taxes as collected the previous year.

While these moves looked good to taxpayers at the time, they had their consequences. The budget, as originally prepared, had expenditures based on the income from the original EMS assessment rate and the original millage rate. Without a reduction in expenditures or locating another sources of revenue, the difference was made up from the county's dwindling reserves which are now dangerously close to the \$8 million floor set by commissioners.

The motion to exempt non profits was made by Commissioner Noel Chandler who suggested a one cent sales tax be imposed the following year to help offset EMS costs.

In order to place that item on the Oct. 4 general election ballot commissioners must act by about Aug. 24. If the additional tax is approved in the general election it would not go into effect until Jan. 1, 2011. The budget would have to be approved by Sept. 30 without knowing if the sales tax would go into effect. Unlike an assessment, which is a fixed rate, the amount of money from a sales tax would be uncertain and fluctuating.

More than likely there would be no cost to the county to put this item on the ballot, according to Gwen Chandler, supervisor of elections. If the sales tax issue fits on the existing ballot, there would be no charge. In the unlikely event that the addition of that one item would cause the ballot to have to be printed on larger paper or go to two pages then the county would have to pay the nominal cost of the additional paper.

Magistrate imposes fine

By Pete Gawda

Okeechobee News

In hearings held Tuesday, Feb. 16, Okeechobee County Code Enforcement Special Magistrate Lois Nichols imposed a fine in one case and set compliance dates in eight other cases.

Kellie Chapman had been cited for building a wall and installing a door on a garage on S.E. 42nd Street without the proper permits. At the hearing, Code Enforcement Officer Beth Albert stated that as of the compliance date, Feb. 15, the proper permits had not been obtained. Therefore the property owner was fined \$50 a day for every day of noncompliance beginning Feb. 17.

Larry Glen Shrader asked for an extension of time to build a pole barn to house the material he was cited for storing outside. He was given until April 15 to come into compliance.

Howard Richards was also cited for construction without a permit. Since he had contacted a contractor to draw up plans in preparation for applying for a permit he was given until April 15 to come into compliance.

Mrs. Albert noted that foreclosure and bankruptcy proceedings were pending against the N.W. 38th Avenue property of Arthur Steinberg. She stated that the mortgage holder had boarded up the abandoned building on the property and had done some mowing. She said that hopefully the property would be in compliance by next month. The

compliance date was set at March 11.

Penny Chaisson was given until May 13 to either obtain a construction permit or demolish with the proper permit an unpermitted concrete block addition to her N.W. 18th Street dwelling.

Robeldan Acosta was given until March 11 to mow and trim the overgrowth on his N.W. 98th Street property.

Code enforcement officer Albert stated that Phillip McCallister has removed most of the debris from his S.E. 37th Way lot. She said he still had to obtain a demolition permit and demolish the mobile home on the property. He was given until March 11 to do so.

John Holt had also made considerable progress toward removing the derelict building on his S.E. 60th Drive property. Mrs. Albert said that the only thing left was to remove a concrete slab. Therefore, his compliance date was moved from Feb. 16 to March 11.

Gloria Jean Vonderau requested an extension of time to come into compliance. She had cleared the overgrowth and removed the unlicensed vehicles from her N.E. 103rd Avenue property. She was given until March 11 to either demolish or repair the derelict structure on her property.

The property of Eduardo and Maylin De Vega was found to be in compliance and that case was not heard. The case of Johnnie Mays was not heard because of lack of proper notification. That case as well as the fine reduction request of Lakeshore Restaurant will be heard in March.

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H5402_QHP1349 FU (01/10)

Man accused of hitting pregnant girlfriend

By Eric Kopp

Okeechobee News

An Okeechobee man has been arrested and charged with hitting his 17-year-old pregnant girlfriend about her head with his fists.

Jose Aranda, 21, N.E. Fifth St., was arrested Sunday, Feb. 21, on a felony charge of battery on a pregnant person. He was booked into the Okeechobee County Jail under a bond of \$15,000.



Jose Aranda

According to an original report by Deputy Paul Jackson of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), Aranda was at his girlfriend's home on Tuesday, Feb. 16, when her 1-year-old baby boy would not stop crying. Aranda

reportedly took the child upstairs and when the baby's mother entered the upstairs bedroom she saw Aranda allegedly hitting the baby about the buttocks and yelling at him to stop crying.

The mother then grabbed her son and laid down on top of the baby to protect him. As she did, Aranda allegedly hit her in the head six times with his fist. Deputy Jackson's report states that the woman had a "knot" on her forehead and there was bruising and redness on the baby's buttocks.

Deputy Jackson's report added that Aranda is not the boy's father.

Even though Deputy Jackson and other deputies searched for Aranda they were unable to find him. Deputy Jackson then applied for, and received, an arrest warrant.

Aranda was then arrested on the warrant Sunday by Deputy Joseph Hall.

Deputy Jackson's report goes on to state that he contacted the Florida Abuse Hotline about the situation.

Register for free volunteer Guardian ad Litem Training

On March 2, the Guardian ad Litem Program will train individuals interested in helping nearly 300 abused and neglected children living in Saint Lucie, Martin, Indian River and Okeechobee counties.

Guardian ad Litem volunteers, and the attorneys working with them, make sure victims of child abuse and neglect are protected and have a safe place to live and the necessary services to overcome their circumstances.

If you wish to make a difference in this community, contact Pattra Dodd at Pattra.Dodd@gal.fl.gov or call: 772-871-7225 or visit our website at GuardianadLitem.org for more information. It has never been easier to serve.

Okeechobee Arrest Report

The following individuals were arrested on felony or driving under the influence (DUI) charges by the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), the Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD), the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) or the Department of Corrections (DOC).

- Sandra Phillips, 39, S.E. 26th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 23, by Deputy Tami Serafini on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with the felonies of violation of probation - possession of hydrocodone, violation of probation - possession of oxycodone and violation of probation - possession of diazepam. The warrant also charged her with the misdemeanor of violation of probation - possession of drug paraphernalia. Her bond was set at \$1,000.

- Randy G. Whaley, 32, N.W. 98th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 23, by Officer Ryan Holroyd on a charge of felony petit theft. His bond was set at \$2,500.

- Julio Luna, 25, Lorida, was arrested Feb. 23 by Deputy Corporal Chris Hans on a warrant charging him with violation of probation - impersonating a law enforcement officer. He is being held without bond.

- Angela Denise Cooper, 32, N.E. 12th Ave., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 23, by Deputy Yamil Astacio on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with battery on an elderly person. She is being held without bond.

- Jose Aranda, 21, N.E. Fifth St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 24, by Deputy Lieutenant Keith Murrish on a warrant charging him with child abuse. His bond was set at \$5,000.

- Monica Elaine Adams, 42, S.W. 19th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 24, by Deputy Tami Serafini on an Okeechobee County warrant charging her with failure to appear - possession of cocaine, failure to appear - possession of oxycodone, failure to appear - possession of diazepam and failure to appear - possession of drug paraphernalia. Her bond was set at \$10,000.

- William Leslie Thomas, 45, S.W. 11th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 25 by Officer Kelley Margerum on a charge of felony battery. His bond had not been set as of newspaper deadline.

- Corey Nathan Hardy, 28, N.W. 12th St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 25 by Deputy Brian Cross on an Okeechobee County warrant charging him with failure to appear - possession of a controlled substance. He is being held without bond.

- James Lee Fountain, 51, S.E. 29th Court, Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 25 by Deputy Thomas Kitchen on a charge of driving under the influence. His bond was set at \$500.

- Selena Maude Billie, 40, S.E. 21st St., Okeechobee, was arrested Feb. 26 by Officer Chad Troutman on a charge of driving under the influence. She is being held without bond.

This column lists arrests and not convictions, unless otherwise stated. Anyone listed here who is later found innocent or has had the charges against them dropped is welcome to inform this newspaper. The information will be confirmed and printed.



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OKEECHOBEE COUNTY INVITATION TO BID

Okeechobee County requests bid from qualified vendors for the purchase of fuel, motor oils and other lubricants on an annual contract basis. Bids should be submitted on the "Invitation to Bid" summary sheet. This bid sheet may be obtained by calling (863)763-9312 or via www.co.okeechobee.fl.us. Please include all of the information requested in the bid summary sheet in the proposal submitted to the County. The bidder does not have to provide a bid on all groups listed on the Invitation to Bid. The bidder may submit bids on portions of the fuel/oil types requested but must respond to the sections requesting information on emergency delivery, taxes and discounts for prompt payment sections for any bid.

Bids will be due no later than March 12, 2010 at 10:00 AM and should be submitted in a sealed envelope and clearly marked "Sealed Bid Okeechobee County Motor Fuel, Motor Oil and Lubricants." Any question or inquires should be directed to: Robbie L. Chartier, Deputy County Administrator at (863)763-9312. Proposals should be sent to: Okeechobee County, 312 NW 3rd Street, Room 206, Okeechobee, FL 34972. All bids received after the deadline for submission will not be opened or considered.

Okeechobee County reserves the right to waive formalities or informalities, to reject or award any and all bids or part(s) thereof, or to negotiate further with any or all bidders and accepts no responsibility for the expense of preparation or delivery of bids to the County. Responses to the "Invitation to Bid" will be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners on or after March 25, 2010 with recommendation(s) for bid award(s).

Clif Betts, Jr., Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
Sharon Robertson, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners

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Okeechobee News

Public Forum/Speak Out

Speak Out has moved online, where it is quicker and easier to share your ideas and converse with others. Go to www.newszap.com, click on the community name and your local or state Public Forum. There, you can create new topics or comment on existing topics. What follows is a sampling of some of the discussions currently taking place. Thanks for participating!

Riding without lights

• Did anyone see this? Two cops on patrol stopped a guy who was on a bike that went across the road in front of them. It was dark out and they told the man he could not ride the bike at night because it had no lights on it. My question is this. No one called this crime in so there was not a witness, so ... did the cops have the right to stop the man and tell him he couldn't ride since no harm was done to anyone and no one saw it? If a tree falls in a forest and no one is there to hear it, does it still make a noise? Lets see, a cop can go to a noise complaint, see the thugs doing it, but he can't do anything about it because no one made a written complaint? Thank God John Wayne cant see this.

• The law says you have to have lights or reflectors on a bike at night. If the cops saw it, then they would be the witnesses.

• It is dangerous to ride at night without lights, both to the bicyclists and to the other drivers on the road, who might have to swerve to avoid him.

Speeding

• Recently I was eastbound, driving the speed limit on SR 70 towards town and there was a pickup hauling a trailer right behind me. A red Mazda with Michigan plates came flying up behind us and passed the truck and trailer and my car at one time, nearly colliding with an oncoming westbound car, and sped away. I continued driving the speed limit, slowing down each time the speed limit changed. And when I got to the main intersection, I was right behind that speeder. What's the big hurry? You aren't going to get anywhere that much faster. There is no reason to drive faster than the speed limit.

Hospital fire

• In regard to the story about the man accused of setting the fire in the bathroom in the ER at Raulerson Hospital, I heard this is a trend in the bigger cities. They set a fire to get everyone's attention so they can rob the place.

Obama

• How long will it take for every last American to realize President Barack Obama is not about bipartisanship, reconciliation (other than as a process to cram his health care bill through Congress) and uniting Americans? As his latest gyrations on health care demonstrate, he will not be deterred in his quest to saddle Americans with socialized medicine, even if it greatly increases the likelihood he won't be re-elected. Here we have Obama, frenetically busy with at least three of his hands, pushing different buttons and sending mixed signals. I guess being a self-perceived messiah means you don't have to worry about being flagrantly inconsistent, even on the same day or in the context of one speech. He's invited Republicans to a bipartisan summit on health care, intending to create the illusion that he's interested in conservative ideas on the subject. But at the same time—he can't even pretend long enough to let this ruse play out—he is threatening Republicans that if they filibuster current congressional health care proposals, he will urge Congress to pass Obamacare by bastardizing the reconciliation process. But wait, just like a Ginsu knife infomercial, there's more. Obama has also unveiled the outlines of his own new health care proposal, but it is hardly a model of bipartisanship.

Drugs

• Why do teachers get a free pass on taking a drug test at their work place. Of all places that job should be on the top of the list for mandatory drug testing, but hey it's only our children they're teaching.

Space shuttle

• What hurts my head is the \$400 million just spent for the new observation deck at the space station. With only four more visits from the space shuttle before they shut down the program ... who gets to use it then?

• There are only four more NASA visits, the Russians and anyone else with a space ship can visit it, after all it is called the "International" Space Station.

• I do say - after four more visits the U.S. will be standing on the ground looking up at someone else on their observation deck. They'll probably outsource the space travel business to China or India.

Letters to the editor

CAP hosts open house

The Civil Air Patrol is sponsoring a special Open House for former Sea Cadets, JRRUTC and their families.

The cancellation of the Sea Cadet Program in Okeechobee is an unfortunate situation. Not only is it sad to see such a worth while program for the youth of our community cancelled, but it is also a disappointment for the former Sea Cadets and their families. And it is also a loss to the community. As a result, the Okeechobee Composite Squadron is hosting a special Open House on their regular meeting night, Tuesday March 2, starting at 19:30 (7:30 p.m.) at their Squadron Headquarters located in T-Hanger #1 at the Okeechobee County Airport to introduce former Sea Cadets, JRRUTC, their families and anyone in the community to the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program.

Lt. Gray, the Cadet Program Director for the Squadron explains the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program is one of the three core missions of CAP along with Emergency Services and Aerospace Education. The Cadet program is a stand alone program within CAP, but Cadets are also trained to be an active part of our Emergency Service Missions and our Aerospace Education Mission.

Captain Papasso, the Squadron Commander describes the mission of the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program "as to provide the youth of our nation with a quality program that enhances their leadership skills through

an interest in aviation, while providing a patriotic service to the local community.

The Cadet Program seeks to provide America with a pool of young, dynamic aerospace leaders for the future." The Cadets achieve the goals of the Cadet program through study and performance while working through a series of achievements and milestone awards. As cadets progress, they advance in grade, increase the scope of their leadership responsibilities, earn awards, and become eligible for nationally-sponsored special activities and scholarships, while developing young, dynamic aerospace leaders through the application of the program's five key elements: Leadership, Aerospace Education, Character Development, Physical Fitness and Activities.

CAP, through the Air Force also provides ten "hands on the controls" flights for the Cadets called Orientation Rides or O-Rides which include five in gliders and five powered flights in our Cessna 172 Aircraft. These are all syllabus based and teamwork oriented to enhance the learning experience. The Cessna 172 is the same aircraft we use on our Search & Rescue Missions we provide to the Community, State and Air Force.

If you have any questions please contact Capt. Joe Papasso at 561-252-0916, Lt. Joe Ragon at 954-695-8000 or Lt. Greg Gernat at 863-697-9915. Hope to see you there.

Your local Civil Air Patrol performing Missions for America. Okeechobee Composite Squadron



Special to the Okeechobee News
Civil Air Patrol Cadets Miller and Holliday worked as a team to position the glider for the next flight of the glider orientation rides.

OKEECHOBEE NEWS

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Additional copies of the newspaper are available for 50 cents Wednesday and Friday and 75 cents for Sunday at the office. Home delivery subscriptions are available at \$18.00 for three months.

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Our Purpose...

The Okeechobee News is published by Independent Newspapers of Florida. Independent is owned by a unique trust that enables this newspaper to pursue a mission of journalistic service to the citizens of the community. Since no dividends are paid, the company is able to thrive on profit margins below industry standards. All after-tax surpluses are reinvested in Independent's mission of journalistic service, commitment to the ideals of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and support of the community's deliberation of public issues.

We Pledge...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.

- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
- To disclose our own conflicts of interest or potential conflicts to our readers.
- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.

MEMBER OF:



Hunters aid in the fight against nonnative snakes

As I See It

By **Rodney Barreto**
FWC Chairman

It never ceases to amaze me. We just wrapped up a big event in the Everglades, in which we trained hunters on how to capture and remove nonnative snakes, and we sent them out to test their skills. It was a cold, damp day. The experts said the pythons would be hiding due to the inclement weather.

The media that gathered were not optimistic. In fact, none of us were. We pretty much resigned ourselves to the prospect that the hunters might go home empty-handed. But sure enough, a team of freshly trained hunters spotted a 5-foot Burmese python in the brush along the L-67 levee. The hunter told us he was able to spot and stalk the snake after receiving our training. He had never caught a wild python before. It just goes to show these snakes are out there, and they are more common than we might think.

We just unveiled a new weapon in the fight against nonnative snakes in the Everglades. Hunters are the latest tool in our toolbox. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) created a special chance for hunters to capture and remove reptiles of concern from state-managed lands around the Everglades. From March 8 to April 17, those with a hunting license and a \$26 management area permit may take reptiles of concern (Indian python, reticulated python, northern and southern African

rock python, amethystine or scrub python, green anaconda and Nile monitor lizard) on Everglades and Francis S. Taylor, Holey Land and Rotenberger wildlife management areas (WMAs).

The specially created season, established by executive order, follows the close of small game season on the three WMAs, and continues during a period when the nonnative snakes are likely to be encountered. During cooler months, cold-blooded reptiles sun themselves on levees, canal banks and roadways to warm up. This makes them easier to spot, capture and remove.

We are once again engaging our stakeholders, in this case, the hunting community, to help us reduce the number of reptiles of concern in the Everglades. Our hunters are on the front lines, and we hope, by tapping into their knowledge of the Everglades, we can make significant progress in this effort.

We provided the hunters with the knowledge they need to succeed in this endeavor. A large group of hunters received training on how to identify, stalk, capture and remove reptiles of concern. The FWC and experts from the reptile industry provided the training, which included lessons in biology and behavior.

I was recently introduced to a South Florida tanner who explained the value of harvested hides. He showed me python-skin belts, boots and pants. I was surprised to learn that python skins can sell for as much as \$5 a foot.

We are serious about helping to stop the spread of reptiles of concern in the Everglades. Over the years, we've ramped up our

efforts. We've offered pet amnesty days to folks who want to surrender their nonnative pets legally with no questions asked, and we've put tighter restrictions on ownership of reptiles of concern. We've engaged the reptile industry and have enlisted its experts to capture and remove nonnative snakes on state-managed lands. Now, we're asking hunters to get involved.

This is about conservation. We are working together to protect our fragile ecosystem from these exotic predators. A balanced

ecosystem benefits our native wildlife, thus benefitting us all.

Just a reminder, reptiles of concern may be taken by all legal methods (including shotguns, rimfire rifles and pistols) used in the taking of game animals; however, the use of centerfire rifles is prohibited. Reptiles of concern may not be taken out of the wildlife management areas alive and must be reported to the FWC within 36 hours by calling, toll-free, 866-392-4286, or by visiting MyFWC.com/ROC.

Reflections from the pulpit

What God cannot do

By **Rev. Bruce Simpson**

I had dropped by to visit at the local nursing home. Bessie had just finished a Bible study lead by a local minister. She said, "Preacher, do you know what God cannot do?" After thinking for a moment, I said, "Bessie, I don't know." She said, "God cannot lie." [Hebrews 6:18]

As I was preparing for this week's sermon, I was reminded of an additional answer to Bessie's question; which is that God cannot make someone love Him. God understood that true love must be freely given. Therefore, he created each of us with "freewill" to make choices. At a cemetery in Lake City, I saw the following inscription on a tombstone: "In life with God, In Death with God." This is the choice God wants each of us to make.

The issues that you and I have to deal with are very trying. Health issues, our aging parents, illegal drugs, teen pregnancies, lack of enough money, loss of home and marital issues are some of the things that pull on our hearts. No one can handle life alone! The invitation is the following:

"Come to me, all of you who are tired and have heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Accept my teaching and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit, and you will find rest for your lives. The burden that I ask you to accept is easy; the load I give you to carry is light." Matthew 11:28-30 New Century Version

The choice to love God is in your hands. Choose to accept His love. Find a church to attend to find out more about God's amazing love.

Okeechobee Forecast

Today: Sunny with a high near 67 and winds from the northwest between 5 and 10 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear with a low around 36 and winds from the northwest around 5 mph.

Extended Forecast

Monday: Sunny with a high near 71 and winds from the north northwest around 5 mph becoming southeast.

Monday night: Partly cloudy with a low around 56 and a 20 percent chance of showers. Winds will be from the south between 5 and 15 mph.

Tuesday: Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm with rain chances at 60 percent. Mostly cloudy with a high near 74. Winds will be from the south at 15 to 20 mph becoming west. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

Tuesday night: Partly cloudy with a low around 46. Winds will be from the west northwest between 10 and 15 mph.

Lotteries

Florida Lottery — Here are the numbers selected Thursday in the Florida Lottery: **Cash 3:** 1-1-4; **Play 4:** 8-9-9-6; **Fantasy 5:** 2-13-17-23-24; **Mega Money:** 2-4-17-30 MB 18; **Florida Lotto:** 7-16-24-39-49-53 X 5; **Powerball:** 4-17-35-50-57 PB12 x2. Numbers drawn Friday, **Cash 3:** 8-3-1; **Play 4:** 8-4-3-4.



Okeechobee News/Pete Gawda

Employee recognition

Okeechobee County Commission Chairman Clif Betts, left, presents Richard Watford, right with a certificate honoring his twenty years with the county. Mr. Watford is an Okeechobee native. He worked through the CETA program as a laborer for Okeechobee County Road Maintenance 1975-1978. He left to pursue other interests and came back to Okeechobee County in 1990 as a laborer and dog-catcher. In 1994 he was promoted to Equipment Operator I with the road department and has run a mower for the last eighteen years. The presentation took place at the Thursday, Jan. 28 commission meeting.

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Community Events

Lodge Breakfast date set

The Okeechobee Masonic Lodge will host Sunday breakfast on Sunday, **Feb. 28**. The breakfast will be \$6 for eggs, bacon, sausage, grits, pancakes, biscuits, and gravy, juice and coffee. The public is welcome. Breakfast begins at 8 a.m. until 11 a.m.

Miss Rodeo Queen Contest deadline approaches

Okeechobee County Cattlewomen's Association presents: Miss Rodeo Okeechobee Rodeo Queen Contest. The categories are: Miss Rodeo Okeechobee- Ages (19-24), Miss Teen Rodeo Okeechobee- Ages (13-18), Miss Rodeo Okeechobee Princess (10-12), Miss Rodeo Okeechobee Sweetheart (7-9), Deadline & Orientation is **March 1**, at 6 p.m. UF/IFAS Extension Office 452 Hwy. 98 North. Contest is **March 4**, at 5:00 p.m. Cattlewomen's Arena Hwy. 441 North. Concession stand will be open. Please see contest rules for age restrictions, all criteria and entry fees & form. Available at: Eli's Western Wear. For questions or Electronic Copy Email or Call: Okeechobeecattlewomen@ymail.com or 863-801-5258 or 863-763-6575.

Obituaries

Obituaries should be submitted to the Okeechobee News by e-mailing obits@newszap.com. Customers may also request photos and links to online guest books. A link to the obituaries is available at www.newszap.com.

Richard Lewis Fitzhugh, 60

OKEECHOBEE — Richard Lewis Fitzhugh, passed away Friday, February 26, 2010, in his home. He was 60.

He was born April 8, 1949 in Sacramento, Calif., to Ralph and Mavis Fitzhugh. He was the manager for a self storage company. Mr. Fitzhugh came to Okeechobee from Sacramento in 1986. He was a member of the Moose Lodge and an avid golfer.

Mr. Fitzhugh is survived by his wife of 33 years, Johanna Fitzhugh of Okeechobee; two sons, Brian (Denise) Fitzhugh of Sacramento, Calif. and Jason (Elaine) Fitzhugh of Loxahatchee; six daughters, Janiene (Brian) Friend of Sacramento, Calif., Dawn (Travis) Usher of Okeechobee, Shawntell (Keith) Ezard of Okeechobee, Tiffany (Jonathan) Fitzhugh of Okeechobee, Kari Bowers of Okeechobee and Charla Conley of Stuart; 20 grandchildren; one great-grandchild; two brothers, Kent Fitzhugh of Sacramento, Calif. and Billy Smith of Jensen Beach; and one sister, Cece Erickson of California.

Memorial services will be 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 2, 2010, at Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home.

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of Bass Okeechobee Funeral Home and Crematory, 205 N.E. 2nd St., Okeechobee, FL 34972.

Friends may sign the guestbook at www.bassokeechobee.com.

Search obituaries nationally at <http://www.legacy.com>

Freedom Outreach Fishing Tournament today

The Freedom Outreach Fishing Tournament series III will be held on Sunday **Feb. 28** with an \$80 entry fee. Tournaments are held at Scott Driver park from safe light until 2 p.m. with Taylor Creek as the alternate in case of low water.

Moose Lodge to host Benefit fundraiser for Don Hadley

The Okeechobee Moose Lodge will host a benefit fundraiser for Don Hadley on Sunday, **Feb. 28**. The fun begins at 2 p.m. with the Shadow Creek Band playing inside and Donnie Martin playing outside. The fundraiser event will also feature a fish fry or barbecue chicken or hog for \$5 a plate or sample all three for \$10. Kids plate (under age 10) for just \$2. There will also be an auction held with Auctioneer Keith of Port St. Lucie. Merchandise donated by merchants of three counties. Bake sale and craft will also be available.

CAP to host open house event

The Okeechobee Civil Air Patrol is hosting an open house on Tuesday, **March 2**, starting at 7:30 p.m. for former Sea Cadets, JRROTC Cadets, their families and anyone interested in the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program. The open house will be at our Squadron Headquarters in T-Hanger #1 at the Okeechobee County Airport. For directions or more information please call Joe Papasso at 863-824-0916 or 561-252-0916.

Hospice hosting Special Yard Sale March 4 and March 5

Hospice of Okeechobee (411 SE Fourth Street) will hold a Gigantic Yard Sale on Thursday, **March 4**, and Friday, **March 5** from 8 a.m. until noon. Specialty Items This Sale: Many NEW furniture items, appliances and wedding dresses! We have NEW ITEMS galore offered at extremely reasonable prices. Funds raised will benefit patient care, including services at The Hamrick Home. For information call 863-467-2321.

PA Assoc. of School Retirees

The Citrus Chap. of the PA. Assoc. of School Retirees (PASR) will meet **March 9**, at 11 a.m. At Inn on the Lakes, Sebring. All former PA school staff members and their guests are invited to attend the meeting. For information or reservations, please call Vicki at 863-385-6408 before March 3.

VFW to hold public consignment auction

Buckhead Ridge VFW Post 9528 will hold a public consignment auction on Saturday, **March 6**, at 10 a.m. Submit a list of items to the VFW Post by **March 4**. Please include name and phone number. No titled items, firearms or junk will be accepted. A 15% commission will be charged on sales. Items will not be accepted before 7 a.m. the day of the sale.

ELC meeting set for March 10

Early Learning Coalition of Indian River, Martin & Okeechobee Counties, Inc. — Okeechobee County Provider/Advisory Council Meeting. Wednesday, March 10, at noon at the American Red Cross, 323 N. Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee.

Barbara Perry Childs, 75

TALLAHASSEE — Barbara Perry Childs, age 75, passed away on Friday, Feb. 5, 2010, in Tallahassee.

She was born on June 24, 1934, in Elkland, Pa., to Willis J. and Hazel (Lindsey) Perry.

A long time resident of Palm Beach County, Barbara moved to Okeechobee, in 1985, then to Tallahassee in 2001.

She is survived by her sons, John (wife-Donna) Carl-son, and Steve (wife-Stacey) Carlson of Panacea; and three grandchildren, Jennifer, Perry, and Tyler.

Ellen Jane McCartney Harrison

LABELLE — Ellen Jane McCartney Harrison, passed away February 12, 2010.

She was born in Logansport, Ind. and had lived in LaBelle for 32 years. She was a housewife. She was a member of the 9th Street Christian Church and the Logansport Order of Eastern Star Lodge 058.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard Jackson Harrison; and daughter, Penny Harrison Haynes.

She is survived by her children, Jack (Rowena) Harrison of Okeechobee, Fred Harrison of LaBelle, and Jean (Byron) Harrison Smith of LaBelle; 8 grandchildren; and 8 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be 2 p.m. Friday, March 5, 2010, at Oakbrook of LaBelle.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the American Heart Association.



Special to the Okeechobee News

Environmental consultant at Kiwanis

The Thursday, Feb. 18 Kiwanis Club meeting was held at the Okeechobee American Legion. L-R are Jim Vensel, President of the Kiwanis Club; Greg Kennedy, the speaker and Devin Maxwell who introduced his guest. Mr. Kennedy is an Environmental Consultant for the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) which is located on Hwy. 98 N., in Okeechobee. DEP is state mandated by the Federal Government to regulate all submerged lands such as storm water run-off and overseeing waste water management on farms which includes the dairy industry as well as working with the Okeechobee Utility Authority in regulating our drinking water. Human impact plays a huge role since fertilizing yards, citrus groves, etc. can have a damaging effect on our water source.

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Bankruptcy settlement results in windfall for the county

By Pete Gawda
Okeechobee News

In these hard times, many businesses have gone bankrupt, adding to the dismal economic outlook. However, one recent bankruptcy settlement benefitted the county.

Biomass, a recently bankrupt company, had been leasing property from Larson Dairy to develop new methods of producing cattle feed additives and alternate energy sources. Their facilities were taken over by LS9, a cor-

poration that will be using sugar from sugar cane to produce diesel.

Biomass owed property taxes on their buildings and equipment back to 2004. As part of the bankruptcy settlement all back taxes, fines and penalties had to be cleared up before the buildings and equipment could be sold to LS9. Okeechobee County Tax Collector Celeste Watford announced that the back taxes from 2004 to 2008 amounting to \$1.6 million dollars have now been paid. That total includes taxes owed from all

sources, South Florida Water Management District, Okeechobee County School Board, fire assessments and other applicable taxes. However, the county will receive a significant portion of that amount.

City Council to consider street closings

It looks like Tuesday night's city council meeting will be brief and routine.

The council is scheduled to hear an update on their insurance program by Andy Cooper, Vice President of World Risk Management and Ross Fury, Executive Director of Public Risk Management.

There are two requests for temporary street closings from the Chamber of Commerce on the agenda. The Chamber wants to close Second through Fifth avenues in Flagler Park from 7 a.m. on Sept. 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Sept. 6 for the Labor Day Festival. The second temporary street closing request involves Second through Fourth avenues in Flagler Park from 6 to 8 p.m. on Dec. 11 for the Christmas Parade.

There have been two payments made on the 2009 taxes with one payment remaining. The total 2009 taxes total about \$74,000.

Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at www.newszap.com. Reporter Pete Gawda can be reached at pgawda@newszap.com.

What: Okeechobee City Council
When: 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 2
Where: City Council Chambers,
Okeechobee City Hall, 55 Third
Ave.

In addition, the council will discuss the annual evaluations of the city administrator and the city attorney and consider renewal of the city administrator's two-year employment agreement.

The mayor is scheduled to proclaim the month of March to be American Red Cross Month in the city.

C.R. 621 to experience five months of periodic traffic interruptions

S-68 flood gate overhaul project to run from March through July

Work planned for the S-68 water control structure, located on County Road 621 in Highlands County, will result in intermittent road closures beginning March 9 and lasting through July 2010.

As part of its ongoing maintenance program, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) will be overhauling the three flood control gates on the S-68 structure, which provides flood protection for residents within the Lake Istokpoga watershed. The structure also serves as a

bridge for C.R. 621 as the road skirts the eastern edge of Lake Istokpoga.

The District will take only one gate out of service at a time to continue providing flood protection with the other two gates. In order to access the gates, workers must be positioned on the C.R. 621 bridge periodically for the next five months.

Traffic interruptions are expected to occur only a few days each month. A flag man will be present to allow traffic to pass in one direction at a time. Each work day will last from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information about this project, including specific road closure dates or traffic routing, please call the SFWMD Okeechobee Service Center at 863-462-5260.

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Continued From Page 1

and that really hurts.

"The judge's decision to dismiss is a good example of when case law trumps actual justice and the victims get disregarded," he added.

Defendants in the case include the state's Department of Agriculture, Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Juvenile Justice and the Department of Corrections. Also named as defendants were Troy Tidwell and Robert E. Curry, two men who are accused of beating and molesting boys at the Marianna school.

The suit against Tidwell was dismissed because of the statute of limitations.

"Tidwell got away," said Mr. Middleton. "I'm truly upset that he's not going to have to face some type of justice for what he did. But, there will come a point in time when he will face justice—it just may not be here on earth."

Mr. Hoag said he really wasn't surprised by the judge's ruling.

"We knew it was an uphill battle with some of the legal issues," he said.

At the core of the dismissal was a case known as Bradsheers vs. Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. In that case, the appeals court ruled that the state was protected from paying monetary damages due to the sovereign immunity doctrine. That doctrine simply means that the state cannot be sued in its own court without its permission.

'I feel betrayed by the State of Florida'

Bryant Middleton, former Florida School for Boys client

"I've been trying to impress on our clients that this is not the end—we're still going to proceed with the claims bill," said Mr. Hoag.

That claims bill was filed by State Senator Arthenia Joyner (D-Tampa) on July 31, 2009. Senate Bill 48 (SB-48) simply states that the men who were victims of abuse, torture and sodomy should be compensated by the state.

First, however, a decision will have to be made about a possible appeal of Judge Shelfer's ruling. If the plaintiffs decide to appeal, they must do so within 30 days from the time the judge's order is entered.

Mr. Middleton, 65, said he and three other men who are named as plaintiffs in the suit must now decide what to do—whether to appeal or go straight to the claims bill.

"It's difficult for four of us to make a decision for pretty close to 500 guys," said Mr. Middleton. "I know there are some guys who are really shattered (by the Feb. 23 ruling)."

The other three plaintiffs are William Horne, Roger Kiser and Jimmy Jackson.

All four men were among the many boys who became known as The White House Boys. The White House was a small, foul smelling, white concrete building on the Marianna campus where boys were taken to be beaten.

Once inside, the boys were made to lay on an iron cot that was covered with a thin

mattress and told to bite into a pillow soiled with blood, vomit and the tears of hundreds of other boys between the ages of 8 and 16.

Men would then beat the boys with a thick leather strap—often to the point that the boys' clothes would become embedded in their buttocks.

One of the men accused of administering these beatings was Tidwell.

In Okeechobee, white boys were taken to a room dubbed the "library" and black boys were taken to the "adjustment room."

In some cases boys were literally beaten to death.

Both Mr. Hoag and Mr. Middleton are

unsure about how to handle the claims bill. Mr. Hoag stated in an earlier interview that he doesn't know if an appeal has to be filed and then ruled on before they can act on the claims bill, or if Tuesday's ruling will allow them to ignore the appeal and go straight to SB-48. Mr. Hoag said the claims bill is "a measure of last resort."

Although he didn't say so specifically, Mr. Middleton sounded as if he holds little hope in any action being taken on the claims bill.

"I've written to every single state senator and asked them their position on this claims bill. I did not get any replies—not a single one," he said. "The issue with the claims bill is we can't get anyone in Tallahassee to tell us if we can file it. They've got us over a barrel, and it's an issue that weighs heavily on me."

Car crash claims man's life

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

A 91-year-old Okeechobee man has died as a result of injuries he received in a two-car accident on U.S. 441 N. Thursday, Feb. 25.

According to Detective Ted Van Deman, of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), Kermit Davidson Nichols, N.E. Third Drive, died at Lawnwood Regional Medical Center in Fort Pierce.

An accident report by OCSO Deputy

Corporal Brian Hagan states that the accident occurred at 1:34 p.m. at the intersection of N.W. 115th Drive and U.S. 441 N.

According to Cpl. Hagan's report Joseph Paul Osteen, 22, N.W. 144th Drive, Okeechobee, was southbound on U.S. 441 N. when Mr. Nichols apparently turned into Mr. Osteen's path of travel at the highway's intersection with N.W. 115th Drive.

Mr. Nichols, added the report, was northbound on the same highway.

The accident report does not indicate if Mr. Osteen was injured.

Ricardo J. Quintero-Herencia, MD



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'High tunnels' extend growing season

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced a new pilot project under the 'Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food' initiative for farmers to establish high tunnels -- also known as hoop houses -- to increase the availability of locally grown produce in a conservation-friendly way. NRCS will provide financial assistance to qualified producers for the project through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the EQIP Organic Initiative.

"This pilot project is going to give us real-world information that farmers all over the country can use to decide if they want to add high tunnels to their operations. We

know that these fixtures can help producers extend their growing season and hopefully add to their bottom line," said USDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan.

A high tunnel is a greenhouse-like structure made of ribs of plastic or metal pipe covered with a layer of plastic sheeting, at least six feet in height, which modifies the climate inside to create more favorable growing conditions for vegetables and other specialty crops grown in the natural soil beneath it.

High tunnels are easy to build, maintain and move and may be used year-round in Florida, providing steady incomes to farmers - a significant advantage to owners of small

farms, limited-resource farmers and organic producers. There may also be advantages to Florida's natural resources with high tunnel production.

Qualified participants can receive funding for one high tunnel that can cover as much as 5 percent of one acre; or approximately a 30 by 72 foot structure. Farmers who would like to sign-up for the high tunnel pilot should call or visit their local NRCS office before the March 12, 2010, application deadline. The Okeechobee USDA Service Center is located at 452 Hwy 98 N, Okeechobee or call 863-763-3619 ext. 502. Visit on-line at <http://offices.usda.gov>. General program information is available on the NRCS Florida website at www.fl.nrcs.usda.gov.

Okeechobee Livestock Market Report

February 22-23, 2010		Med #1	Steers	Hftrs	Small #1		
Cows		170-200	180-190		250-300	125-130	108-110
Breaking	\$52.00 \$58.00	200-250	145-160	155-165	300-350	113-120	90-105
Cutter	\$48.00 \$58.00	250-300	130-150	122-155	350-400	104-119	
Canner	\$40.00 \$43.00	300-350	126-139	114-125	Cow prices came back to earth this week after what was probably the highest cow prices we'll see in a while! Good cows still pushing \$60. Calf prices are still good. Demand is good, not many of them around. M. Williams topped the market with a high of \$2, bought by Curt Wilson. Andy and Amber Murphy topped the cow market with a high of \$64, bought by Central Bred Heifers For Sale. Call the office at 863-763-3127. Don't forget, we do preg check cows on Mondays. Todd		
Bulls		350-400	117-132	110-117			
1000-1500	\$56.00 \$68.00	400-450	115-125	101-107			
1500-2000	\$63.00 \$74.00	450-500	110-119	99-108			
		550-600	104-113	95-108			
		600-650	99-109	89-104			
Monday Tuesday		Med #2		Steers	Hftrs		
Calves	372 1168	200-250	120-132	90-120			
Cows	254 542	250-300	110-137	95-117			
Str	16 73	300-350	110-127	95-110			
Hftrs	7 107	350-400	100-122	85-100			
Bulls	31 25	400-450	99-117	90-95			
Yrlngs	26 67						
Mix	16 7						
Total	722 1989						



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Tuesday at 11 a.m.

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Florida beef cattle seedstock marketed internationally

TALLAHASSEE — Florida cattle producers have a new marketing tool to help them increase exports of Florida bulls, heifers, brood cows and genetics as seedstock to other countries seeking to improve and expand their beef herds.

A reference booklet titled "Ganado del la Florida/Cattle of Florida"—produced by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in conjunction with the Florida Cattlemen's Association and various state breed associations—will be used to promote Florida beef cattle and genetics during international trade events.

"Many Florida breeds are well adapted to hot and wet environments found in other parts of the world, particularly in South America and the Caribbean," Florida Agriculture Commissioner Charles H. Bronson said. "Florida breeders use the very best processes and practices to meet customer commitments, and are dedicated to continuously improving genetics, herd sustainability, characteristics and affordability." The booklet contains contact information provided by each association, as well as a list of livestock markets in Florida. The introduction is in English and Spanish.

To download the booklet, visit: <http://www.Florida-Agriculture.com> and click on the "Brochures" tab.

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The Tobacco-Free Initiative of Okeechobee

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Will hold its monthly meeting to discuss and work on issues relating to tobacco prevention and education in the community

Wednesday, March 31, April 28, May 26, June 23, 2010

Hampton Inn Conference Room
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Special to the Okeechobee News/NEHS

Excellence recognized

New Endeavor recently celebrated those students who excelled in academics or behavior for the months of January and December. Pictured: Tavares Whitehead, Jerome Johnson, Ethan McWhorter, Travis Butts, Johnathan Wigle, Ana Hernandez, Kaya Henry, Dalton Bradley, Thomas Coberly, Jakaris Morris, Briana Kemp, Gabby Mendez. Not Pictured: Jessica Camp, Tyler Bleakley, Cody Souder. Congratulations! Keep up the good work!



Special to the Okeechobee News/OMS

Osceola Middle Students of the Week

Students of the Week at Osceola Middle School for the week of Feb. 22-26. These students were caught being good all over campus - and the faculty and staff appreciate them! Front row, left to right: Amber Savage, Alexander Hernandez, Marjon Lebrando, Gerardo Garcia. In the back row, left to right are: Lynn Nealis, Emilie Briere, Destiny Fonseca, Kyle Nichols.

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Special to the Okeechobee News/YMS

Students of the Week

Yearling Middle School students selected for this week's students of the week included: from left to right, Conner Hall, Matthew Coleman, Adrianna Donis-Florian, Ana Alonso, Ardano Ramos, and Elio Campos. Not pictured: Ryan Folsom and also pictured; Mr. Tedders, Mrs. Markham, and Mr. Brewer.



Special to the Okeechobee News/OMS

OMS Students of the Week

Students of the Week for Feb. 15-19 at Osceola Middle School are pictured, after they dined on pizza supplied by Domino's Pizza. Thanks to Domino's for helping us honor our outstanding students and their accomplishments! Front row, left to right: Reagan Smith, Daniel Alvarez, Jacqueline Phares. In the back row, left to right are: Colton Rusinko, Hannah Whiting, Shelby Pearce, Emilse Serrano.



Special to the Okeechobee News/SES

Students of the Week

Congratulations to the Students of the Week for Feb. 26. They are: Chelsea Hastings, Zachary Patterson, Katlin McDeavitt, Luz Hernandez, Itzel Perera Lombera, Cristian Trejo, Chase Beal, Jortravious Marshall, Stormy Requena, Danielle Geary, Daniel Parker, Victoria Hamby, Grace Luna, Jeny Hernandez, Hunter Smith, Minh Thy Nguyen, and Florivella Gonzales. South Elementary School—Where Eagles Soar!

ACHIEVEMENT

JESSIE CARR

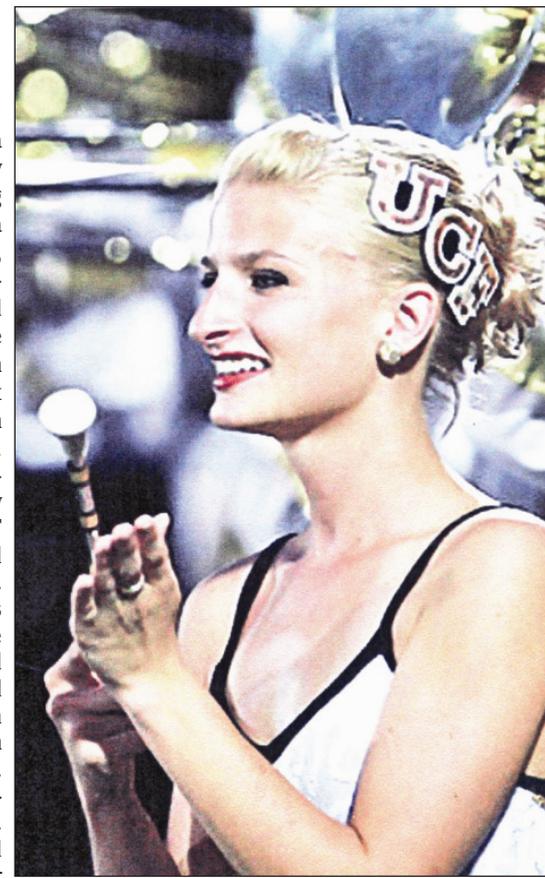
Orlando Sentinel. Jessie Carr, a majorette with the University of Central Florida Marching Knights, performed at the Tropicana Bowl in St. Petersburg on December 19, 2009. This was her last game performing as a majorette. She has performed as a majorette for the Knights for the last four years. As a freshman, she won rookie of the year, which was the first time a majorette won. She was chosen by her peers consisting of 365 members.

Jessie had the honor of participating in the opening of the new Brighthouse Stadium built at UCF in 2007. She was also able to attend two bowl games in her four years.

Jessie started twirling at six years old and competing at seven. She won numerous district, regional, and state titles, winning her first National Competition at eleven years old in Dayton, Ohio. She plans to stay in twirling by teaching private lessons.

Jessie is majoring in education and plans to teach first grade. She has a 3.298 GPA and earned a place on the President's Honor Roll with a 4.0 in the fall of 2009.

She was born in Okeechobee of a fourth generation Okeechobee family. She graduated from Okeechobee High School in 2006 and was feature twirler four years.



She would like to thank family and friends for their support through the years. A special thank you to her uncle, John Williams, for unfailing moral and financial support. Congratulations, Jessie, on a job well done.



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Former 'Anglers' leader honored at celebration

Big O Teen Anglers celebrated their five year anniversary this year at the annual banquet Jan. 29. Over 100 people were in attendance for this event which included a memorial slide show honoring corporation Vice President Bill Hays.

Kyle Monti, the 2009 president, gave the opening prayer and presented the awards.

Ryan Edwards was 2009 angler of the year for the 11-14 year olds, with a total weight of 103.03 lbs. This is Ryan's third year as angler of the year.

Garrett Farmer was 2009 angler of the year for the 15-18 year olds, with a total weight of 119.50 lbs.

Six anglers had perfect attendance: Logan Bohannon, Garrett Farmer, April Floyd, Robby Hays, Luke Joles and Matthew Robbins.

Kenny Farmer was 2009 boat captain of the year with a total weight of 99.18 lbs. This is Kenny's second year as boat captain of the year.

Jack Fulce was the guest of honor and received an award of appreciation for his \$10,000 donation to the junior bass club. Mr. Fulce presented Charlie Hays, the corporation president of the Big "O" Teen Anglers, Inc., with the generous donation at the B.A.S.S. weigh-in recently held at Scott Driver's. He has also pledged to become a boat captain for the anglers.

Thomas and Elaine Jackamore were also honored guests at the banquet. Their donations of rods, reels, miscellaneous tackle and tackle boxes added to the door prizes awarded to the anglers.

Margaret Helton and Garrard's Bait & Tackle Shop and Guide Service, provided rods and reels for the anglers of the year as well as eight gift cards for door prizes.

Stan Speed provided custom rods for the two top anglers.

Koby Kreiger and Okeechobee Fishing Headquarters presented a huge box of worms, lures, fishing line, etc. which was used to fill the bags each angler received with their participation certificates.

Kevin Folsom and Publix donated balloons and canned drinks and water.

The Oil Can donated the oil for the boat captains.



Special to the Okeechobee News
Garrett Farmer was 2009 Angler of the Year for the 15-18 year olds.

Marsha and Tony and Advanced Engraving and Stitchin' Post provided the trophies.

Janice Floyd and Rut N' Strut N' Taxidermy donated a free fish mount to each angler of the year for a future catch of a lifetime.

Doug and Sandy Vest and Pogy's Restaurant catered another great dinner for the banquet.

Big O Teen Anglers would like to thank the boat captains: Kenny Farmer, Mike Zubricky, Ken Hall, Leroy Bauer, David Straight, Ernie Johnson, Kevin Folsom, Skip Jeslowski, David Pearce, Mike Jones, Matt Johnson, Mike Ingram, Brian Hays, Carl Lewis, John Supley, Richard Stislitz, Bob Stafford, Justin Schewier, Tony Floyd, Larry Wise, George Marshall Jr., Mike Frost, Tim Arnold, Roy O'Dell and Bill Sietz.

Thanks also go to the sponsors: Pogy's Family Restaurant, Porter's Cleaners, Advanced Engraving, Stitchin' Post, Garrard's Bait & Tackle Shop & Guide Service, Okeechobee Fishing Headquarters, Okeechobee News, Publix, Coverall Cleaning Concepts, Rut N' Strut N' Taxidermy, Stan Speed, Bill O'Keefe, and all the parents and volunteers for their continued support.

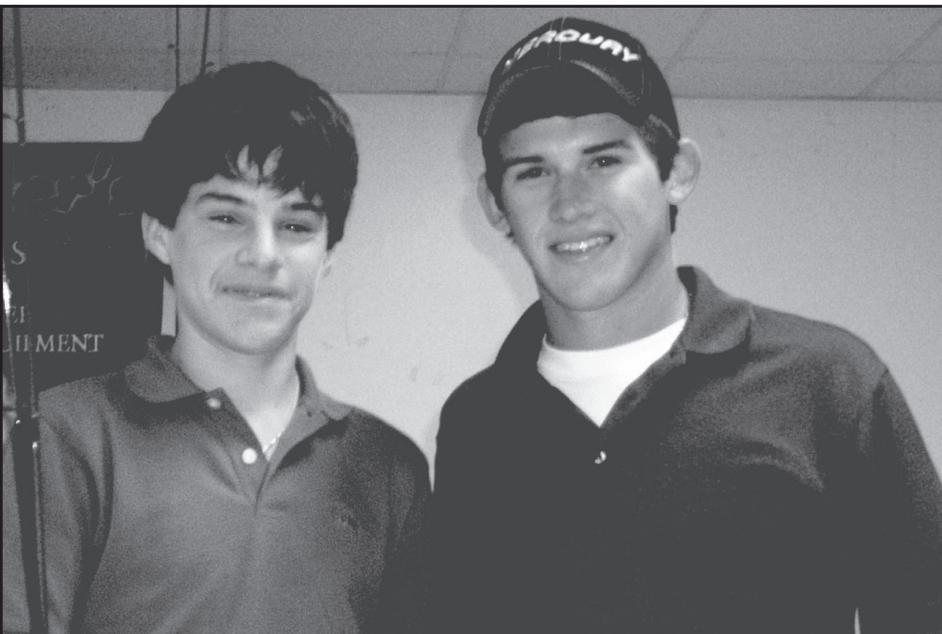
Garrett and Ryan both won the 2009 Florida Bass Federation Nation State Qualifier for their age group and will be competing in the 2010 B.A.S.S. Southern Divisional next month.



Special to the Okeechobee News
Kenny Farmer, 2009 Boat Captain of the year.



Special to the Okeechobee News
Jack Fulce, was the guest of honor.



Special to the Okeechobee News
Kyle Monti, the 2009 president, and Ryan Edwards who was 2009 Angler of the Year for the 11-14 year olds.

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Girls tennis shuts out Fort Pierce



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Heather Lanning, OHS girls tennis, played well in their first match of the year against the Lady Cobras.

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee High School girls tennis won their first match of the year Thursday when they blasted the Fort Pierce Central Lady Cobras 7-0 at the Okeechobee Sports Complex.

Okeechobee (1-2) got easy singles victories from four of their five girls. Heather Lanning walloped Sashira Mendez 6-0, and 6-0. Samantha Rivero defeated Ashley Lindstadt 6-0, and 6-0. Katie Walker defeated Erica Reynoso 6-1, and 6-1 in the fourth seed match. Jenna Rath defeated Taylor Wright 6-0, and 6-1.

Only Katherine Ragamat had a tough match as she was pushed to a third set before she was able to defeat Mary Eberhart 6-2, 4-6, and 6-3.

In doubles the team of Lanning and Rivero defeated Mendez and Lindstadt 8-0. The team of Liz Turner and Vanessa Watt defeated Reynoso-Wright 8-5.

Tennis coach Amanda Van Camp said she was very pleased with the play of her girls. "The girls played consistent, fundamental tennis and that's what they needed to do to win this match."

Van Camp especially praised Ragamat for showing some fight in a very long and grueling match, "She played a tough opponent in the number three match and showed poise, determination and tenacity in her victory."

The girls travel to Sebring on Tuesday and return home to host Lincoln Park Academy on Thursday, March 4.

Boys tennis loses tight match to John Carroll

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee High School got off to a slow start and despite some success was not able to defeat a solid John Carroll Rams team in a boys tennis match Tuesday at the Okeechobee Sports Complex.

Okeechobee got singles victories from Zach Fowler, and Austin Willard. The doubles team of Willard and Jonathan Huddoff was also victorious.

Fowler defeated Mateo Abondano 2-6, 6-1, and 6-2. Willard defeated Nick De-Crescenzo 1-6, 7-6, (7-2 in tie break), and 6-4.

The Brahman doubles team defeated DJ Osgood and Dominic Charles 8-1.

Boys tennis coach Bryan Van Camp said it looked pretty bad for his team at the

beginning, but he was pleased the team kept working hard, "We just kept hanging around. Austin and Zach did a good job rallying to win the second and third sets of their matches."

In other singles matches Hudoff lost to Osgood 1-6, 4-6. Max Norman extended his opponent Dominic Charles to a third set before he fell, 6-0, 1-6, 4-6. Chris Wegman lost to Santiago Abondano 2-6, 2-6 in the fifth seed match.

Van Camp said Norman had the best chance to win as he lost a tough three-set match. "John Carroll is tough. They returned everyone from last year and they gave us a tough match last year. I think we did the best we could."

The boys team hosted Fort Pierce on Thursday. They travel to Sebring next Tuesday, March 2.

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Boys tennis rips Fort Pierce Central

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Okeechobee High School boys tennis won their first match of the year in style Thursday, 7-0, over Fort Pierce Central.

Okeechobee had few problems as all of their singles players won in impressive fashion against an outmatched Cobra team.

Zach Fowler paced the Brahmins with a 6-0, 6-1 victory over Kraig Glenton. Fowler said he worked on his game at the net and on his serve.

"The net game is something new I want to learn. I'm good at playing defense, now I want to add more to my offensive game," he said.

He had two service faults in the first game but still won the game which bode well for the rest of the match. Glenton didn't have a strong serve and while he hit a number of long volleys, was unable to put points away.

Fowler won a number of points by hitting volleys and overheads at the net. Those points made Fowler feel good about the improvement he's made in his game, "I'm learning a new serve and it has worked pretty well. I'm hitting the ball harder. I'll just

keep working on it."

As impressive as Fowler was Jonathan Hudoff was even more impressive in the number two seed match. He won the first set in 14 minutes against Dominic Smith, who appeared content to just get the ball over the net.

"We both worked hard," Hudoff said, "I just had a better day than he did."

Hudoff, a doubles specialist, said he enjoys playing singles matches this year because he gets all of the glory. He said he did a good job dealing with the wind during Thursday's match.

Hudoff teams up with Austin Willard in doubles and they had an easy 8-1 win on Thursday.

"We play a lot together and have known each other for a long time. We lift each other up when we're down," he added.

Hudoff lost the first game of the second set and had few problems after that in his straight set 6-0, 6-1 victory in singles.

"I could have played better but I had fun out there and that's all that matters," he said.

In other matches Willard defeated Youri Daniel 6-0, and 6-1. Chris Wegman defeated Brian Altman 6-1, 6-0. Max Norman won by forfeit.

The team of Fowler and Norman also won in doubles.

Okeechobee travels to Sebring on Tuesday and hosts Lincoln Park Academy next Thursday.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Zach Fowler looked impressive in a straight set win Thursday.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Jonathan Hudoff wasn't pushed by his opponent as he won 12 of 13 games.

Wrestling club ready for action

The Okeechobee Wrestling Club will hold sign ups and registration for the upcoming spring season starting in early March.

Sign ups are scheduled for Tuesday March 2, Wednesday March 3, Thursday March 4, and Tuesday March 9, at the Okeechobee High School gymnasium. The cost is \$40 per wrestler. The club coaches will train students between the ages of 5-18.

Practice begins on March 9. Elementary school students will practice from 6 until 7 p.m. and middle and high school students from 7 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you have any questions please contact Bruce Jahner at 863-634-9411.

Club Soccer Indoor League forming

Registration for the Youth Indoor Soccer League will be held Thursday & Friday, **March 4-5**, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Yearling Middle School Gym. Boys and girls in grades 6th-12th will practice and compete in a 5-on-5 small arena setting. The fee is \$30 per person and will include uniform shirts. The season will run March 8 through May 27. Games will be played at the Yearling Middle School Gym some weeknights between 4-8 p.m. For more information, call Brian King at 863-610-0084.

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OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Girls battle cold, Jensen Beach

By Charles M. Murphy
Okeechobee News

Samantha Harrell tossed a one-hit shut-out and Okeechobee High School's softball team scratched across two runs with aggressive base running in the bottom of the sixth inning to defeat Jensen Beach 2-0 Thursday night despite frigid temperatures.

Harrell allowed just three runs to reach scoring position as she struck out seven. She also had excellent control as she walked just one batter.

She explained she seemed to gain strength as the game went on because she had trouble warming up in the cold. She wasn't the only one as the large crowd huddled together amid winter jackets, portable heaters, and blankets to stay warm.

"I got with it and told myself this is just another team and I did my job," Harrell added.

Okeechobee and Jensen have been battling each other for years so it was no surprise that this game would be another tight battle. Coach Kim Hargraves said she knew the team that made fewer mistakes would have the advantage.

"Jensen put themselves in position to score several times but we played good enough defense to keep them out of it," she said.

Okeechobee didn't have a great night at the plate against Jensen Beach starter Brianna Parker. A double play took them out of a rally in the first inning, and a dispute over a base runner and an error by the shortstop failed to produce a run in the second for Okeechobee, (2-0).

Okeechobee in fact had base runners on base in every inning but the fifth.

"I told the girls I'm tired of seeing blanks on the scoreboard," Hargraves said, "We had multiple opportunities to score but we couldn't come through."

On defense Harrell retired the first six batters, and didn't walk a batter until the fourth inning. She was helped out in the second when Victoria Blevins made an excellent diving catch in the second inning.

"That was a big league diving catch," Hargraves said, "I think that was a momentum changer for our entire team. The girls stuck together, played great defense, and made it happen when we needed it."



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
Samantha Harrell was dominant on the mound in Okeechobee's win Thursday.

Okeechobee's winning rally was based on aggressive base running, which has been the plan this year. Ashtyn Brown reached on an error to start the rally and Blevins followed with a solid single up the middle. A double steal put runners on second and third. After Courtney Wilson popped up, Megan Clements hit a ground ball to first but Brown took off immediately and was able to slide around the tag of catcher Erin Brickson. Katarina Suarez followed with an RBI ground out as Blevins waited for the third basemen to throw to first, broke for the plate, and scored easily.

Harrell did the rest as she retired the last six batters and 10 of the final 11 she faced.

"We have three good pitchers this year but if one girl is doing well enough, we won't take it off her shoulders," Hargraves said, "If a horse is running well were going to keep riding it."

"We got our heads together and got some runs scored. We just looked better. I'm so glad we beat Jensen," Harrell said.

The Brahman JV lost a very competitive game, 5-4. Before the JV game the annual ball drop fund raiser was held. Dana Osceola won the closest to the base and won \$1,500. Amanda Smith was second closest and earned \$600. Shannon Gagliardi was third and won \$400. A season pass was also given out to the ball that landed furthest from the base.

Fire Chief Herb Smith and the Okeechobee City Fire Department donated the use of their ladder truck for the annual ball drop.



Okeechobee News/Charles Murphy
(left) Coaches Heather Gillis and Kim Hargraves are assisted by Fire Chief Herb Smith at the ball drop Thursday. (inset right) Volunteers measured how close each ball came to the base.

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Aldo Lombardo, M.D., FACS
Board Certified Plastic Surgeon

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Breast Augmentation \$3,950
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Celebrations

www.newszap.com/celebrations

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- A print announcement in the newspaper of your choice.
- An online listing at www.newszap.com/celebrations.
- Online guestbook for friends and family to sign and view.
- Online photo gallery for up to 10 photos.
- Gift registry page
- Profile page

Submit your good news today at
www.newszap.com/celebrations

WEDDING
JOSEPH W. EXAMPLE & JANE A. ILLUSTRATION

Joseph Wayne Example and Jane Anna Illustration were married on Jan. 1, 2010, in a local church. Their wedding was officiated by the reverend. The couple of bride was Miss. Friends and family illustrations. Lanes Illustration. They Neighbor and friends. The best man was Roger Example and the maid of honor was Susan Example. The ceremony was held at the local church. The bride and groom were married at the local church. The bride and groom were married at the local church. The bride and groom were married at the local church.



BIRTH
SUSAN A. EXAMPLE

Susan Anna Example was born at 2:00 p.m. on Feb. 28, 2010, in Okeechobee. She weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. and was 20 1/2 inches long. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Example. Her maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Example. Her paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Example. Her great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Example. Her great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Example.



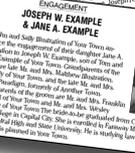
ANNIVERSARY
JOSEPH W. EXAMPLE & JANE A. EXAMPLE

Joseph W. Example and Jane A. Example celebrated their wedding anniversary with family and friends on Feb. 28, 2010. The celebration was held at the local church. The celebration was held at the local church. The celebration was held at the local church.



ENGAGEMENT
JOSEPH W. EXAMPLE & JANE A. EXAMPLE

Joseph W. Example and Jane A. Example announced their engagement to family and friends on Feb. 28, 2010. The announcement was held at the local church. The announcement was held at the local church. The announcement was held at the local church.



Online Classifieds



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Post your ads in any of these newspapers for as little as \$8 each:

Okeechobee News • Caloosa Belle • Clewiston News • Glades County Democrat • Immokalee Bulletin • The Sun

• Online for 4 weeks - 400 words + 4 photos
• Absolutely FREE!
• Post your ads in our papers for as little as \$8 each
www.newszap.com
click on classifieds

Employment
For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Employment Full Time
QUALITY CONTROL
Earn up to \$100 per day. Evaluate retail stores, training provided, No experience required. Call 888-615-5249

Employment Part Time
WORK WITH a Fortune 500 Company involved in new technology! Starts part time with high 5 figure potential and depending on each individual there will be multiple full time 6 figure income potential in the near future, plus extra bonuses and credible compensation incentives. We are growing at a rapid rate and looking for business minded individuals that are motivated with a great work ethic to train our company's system. Our Regional Vice President will be conducting interviews on March 2nd & March 4th, 2010. Appointment is required. For more information please call (863)824-0042.

Merchandise
For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Television

CHEAP WII GAMES!!!! - CHEAP WII GAMES - ALL NEW TITLES AND 200 OTHERS. I ALSO HAVE BRAND NEW WII FIT BOARDS & GAMES FOR SALE. BOARDS ARE \$130 EACH OR \$105 WITH GAME PACKAGE. CALL FOR DETAILS ON GAME PRICING & PACKAGE DEAL.. (863)357-2602

FOR RENT
Rentals
For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Apartments

River Acres, 1/1 Efficiency, very clean \$600 mo., Incl. utls & Dish TV (863)467-1950

VIKING/PRAIRIE Efficiency. Very clean! \$500/mo. Incl. utls. No pets. Call 561-329-8205

Condos/Townhouses Rent

Taylor Creek Condo 1/1 Furnished, Pool, W&D, water & elec. \$900 mo + sec. 863-824-0981

Houses - Rent

3/2 CBS in town with fenced in yard. \$950 p/mo. First, last & security. 863-634-7725.

AFFORDABLE NEW HOUSES - 3/2/2 and 3/1/1, tile floors, jacuzzi tub, Bring Pets, Large Yards (561)723-2226

Houses - Rent

CBS HOME - Clean, 3br, 2ba on 1/2 acre, partial fenced yard \$1200 (772)708-4993

CLEAN 2/1, Lg. yard w/ Oak trees. Lofton Rd. \$650 mo 1st, last, \$400 sec. 561-261-0077

DIXIE RANCH - 3br, 2ba. Large jacuzzi on screened back porch. Fenced back yard. Too many extras to mention. \$900/mo (863)634-8007

Buying a car? Look in the classifieds. Selling a car? Look in the classifieds.

OOKEE: 3/1 on 1/2 ac. Renovated, laundry, Central Air & Heat, screen porch, carport. \$925 mo, 1st mo. & dep. Call 305-458-8659

OOKEECHOBEE 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2 Car garage. \$1000 mo. Call 863-763-7552

ON RIM CANAL - 3BR/2BA, lg. lot, \$850 mo. + \$500 sec. & elec. (863)697-0214

Office Space Rent

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT (863)763-8565

How fast can your car go? It can go even faster when you sell it in the classifieds.

Rental Needed

Wanted to Rent: clean, furnished residence in Okeechobee area for 2010/2011 season for approx. 6 mos., we are non-smokers, non-drinkers & have no pets. Call 765-621-2434

When doing those chores is doing you in, it's time to look for a helper in the classifieds.

Real Estate
For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Houses - Sale

CBS - 4/2, for sale, rent to own or rent, completely remodeled, in ground pool, fenced, metal roof, .48 acres, 2,000+sf, 20X30 steel shed, \$149,900 Rent \$1050. (561)801-3002

Get a quick response to any item you may be selling with a classified ad.

Mobile Homes
For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Mobile Home Rent

BHR - 2/2 Furnished, on water w/dock. Very clean. \$750 mo. + sec. dep. (863)824-0981

BUCKHEAD RIDGE - Dbl. Wide 3 BR, 2 BA, C/Air. \$700 mo. No pets. \$300 sec. dep. (863)763-4031

FOR RENT: 3/2 and 2/1 Cottages. Newly remodeled. 12 miles north of Okeechobee on beautiful ranch. Water, trash & lawn maintenance included. NO PETS! M-F. (863)467-2982

Mobile Home Sale

BANK REPO'S MOVE TO YOUR LAND Mobile Home Augels 561-721-2230

DW MH - 4BR, 2.5BA, renovated, on 1 acre fenced in lot, screened patio, shed, off 710 & 15A. \$79,900. Call (863)610-1600

Mobile Home Sale

DWMH -3/2 beautiful country lot, completely fenced, lrg florida room, 3 sheds, fruit trees, furnished, minutes from river access \$65,000.00 (863)532-8432 or (863)763-8761

For Sale: Park Model w/Fla. Room in Blue Cypress. Includes the lot. Reduced \$45,000 or obo. Call 863-532-9222 or 863-610-0218.

For Sale MH 12x38 1br/1ba Furnished; w/Fl room; New flooring & gutters \$8000 317-910-9182

OOKEECHOBEE- 1981 dbl wide on water, porch, lg edition, boathouse, \$100,000 (863)763-0474



St. Cloud (Disney World Area) - Beautiful 2BR/1.5BA mobile home, waterfront, 55+ community, (swimming pool, shuffleboard & hot tub), completely furnished, close to Wal-Mart, police station & hospital, \$22,000 will neg. (561)596-6343

Shop from a gift catalog that's updated regularly: the classifieds.

When you want something sold, advertise in the classifieds.

Grab a bargain from your neighbor's garage, attic, basement or closet in today's classifieds.

SWM -1/1 dollhouse starter home, beautiful country lot, totally private fenced, lg florida room, newly remodded, furnished, minutes from river access \$40,000.00 (863)763-8761.

Need a Job? Want a Career?

Okeechobee Health Care Facility is offering Certified Nursing Assistant training to those who qualify. Once you complete the training and pass the required test, we put you to work starting at **\$9.00 per hour.**

If you are interested, please complete an application at our business office, located at 406 NW 4th St.

Parrot Farm Caretaker/Girl Friday needed Tues.- Sat., Bird exp. a plus. Background Check. 863-467-8686

Employment Medical

HEALTHCARE SPECIALIST

Lincare, leading national respiratory company seeks Healthcare Specialist. Responsibilities: Disease Management Program, clinical evaluations, equipment setup & education. Be the doctor's eyes in the home setting. RN, RRT, CRT licensed as applicable. Great personality with strong work ethic needed. Competitive salary, benefits & career paths. Drug Free Workplace, EOE. Please fax resume to Angel, 863-763-5191 or call 863-763-7337

Your next job could be in today's classifieds. Did you look for it?

How do you find a job in today's competitive market? In the employment section of the classifieds

Financial
For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Services
For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Business Opportunities

Excavation

CLEARING & HAULING Dump Truck, Back Hoe & Bobcat Services... by Jason Summerford (863)634-7771

NOTICE

Independent Newspapers will never accept any advertisement that is illegal or considered fraudulent. In all cases of questionable value, such as promises of guaranteed income from work-at-home programs - if it sounds too good to be true, chances are that it is. If you have questions or doubts about any ad on these pages, we advise that before responding or sending money ahead of time, you check with the Better Business Bureau at 772-878-2010 for previous complaints.

Some 800 and 900 telephone numbers may require an extra charge, as well as long distance toll costs. We will do our best to alert our reader of these charges in the ads, but occasionally we may not be aware of the charges. Therefore, if you call a number out of your area, use caution.

Shop here first! The classified ads

Love the earth Recycle your used items by selling them in the classifieds.

Sewing

HAND QUILTING in my home. (863)357-0868

One man's trash is another man's treasure. Turn your trash to treasure with an ad in the classifieds.

Top Soil

JACK'S TOP SOIL Fill Dirt/Shell Rock & Bob Cat work. Call 863-467-4734

Looking for a place to hang your hat? Look no further than the classifieds.

READING A NEWSPAPER HELPS YOU UNDERSTAND THE WORLD AROUND YOU.

Auctions Auctions Auctions Auctions

AUCTION

Thursday • March 18th • 4 p.m.

4 Oak Tree Place Condo's

&

1 Ancient Oaks RV Park Unit

Auction Location: Oak Tree Place, 2355 SW 28th Street Okeechobee, Florida



To be sold from OAK TREE PLACE

OAK TREE PLACE

- 4 Units:
- 70A - 1 Bedroom - leased \$595 (8/01/10)
 - 70C - 2 Bedroom - townhouse - vacant
 - 70H - 1 Bedroom - leased \$595 (9/01/10)
 - 40G - 1 Bedroom - leased \$595 (2/01/11)

All units recently updated to new

2355 SW 28th Street

LOCATION

ANCIENT OAKS RV RESORT

- RV Unit #111, Lot 7, Block 19
- 1 Bedroom Mobile Home
- Screened Florida Room
- Double Carport
- Leased \$550 monthly until 8/01/10

6657 SE 51st Lane

- ✓ All units have recently refurbished to "like new"
- ✓ New appliances, plumbing, flooring and kitchens
- ✓ Central AC/heat
- ✓ CBS 1st floor, stucco on frame 2nd floor
- ✓ New roofs
- ✓ Vacant unit ready to lease or move in
- ✓ Leased units - earn good income
- ✓ Centrally located
- ✓ HOA membership req'd - \$145 monthly plus annual insurance billing

- ✓ An active 55+ community
- ✓ Membership in Condominium Association req'd - \$100 monthly association fee
- ✓ Many recreational facilities - Country Store, rec building, heated swimming pool & spa, laundry facilities, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe pits, and boat basin w/ boat docks
- ✓ Lake Okeechobee access by boat
- ✓ Gated entrance

TERMS: NO MINIMUM! • All units sell without reserve! • 10% buyer's premium • Cash to bid Seller Financing Available!

Conducted by: **Karlin Daniel & Associates, Inc.**
Lic R.E. Broker • AB878AU1207

OWNER: John Ames



Call for More Information
800-329-0036 Ext 103
www.karlindaniel.com

Recreation
For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

Boats

For Sale: 18.6 2000 Triton Bass Boat & Trailer, 150 Johnson OB SS Prop. Very low hours. ph # 863-763-2712 cell#860-617-4164.

Campers/RVs

2005 National RV TROPICAL LX - 37 ft. 3 slides, diesel, 14,800 miles, like new, no pets or smokers \$84,500.00 (863)6343183-3183

Earn some extra cash. Sell your used items in the classifieds

Your new home could be in today's paper. Have you looked for it?

Reading a newspaper makes you a more informed and interesting person.

No wonder newspaper readers are more successful!

It's never too late to find the perfect gift. Look for it in the classifieds.

Looking for a place to hang your hat? Look no further than the classifieds.

Public Notices

For more listings, go to
www.newszap.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 796
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC.,
A Florida Corporation
Plaintiff
v.
SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: DANIELLE BERNARD
1299 E. 93RD STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11236

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Complaint for Foreclosure of Mortgage involving real estate located in Okeechobee County, Florida, and legally described as follows:

The E1/2 of the E1/2 of the S1/2 of the S1/2 of Tract 21 Section 25 all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records.
Strap Number(s):
1-25-34-33-0A00-00021-P000

has been filed against you and your are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on KENNETH M. JONES, of Moody, Jones, Ingino & Morehead, P.A., Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201, Plantation, Florida, 33324, within 30 days of first publication, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on 2/23/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON
Clerk of the Court
By: Arlene Nealis
As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201
Plantation FL 33324
(954) 473-6605
KENNETH M. JONES
Florida Bar No. 142618
347425 ON 2/28;3/7/10

This is personal.

My mother died of colon cancer when she was only 56.
Terrence Howard, actor/musician

Colorectal cancer is the 2nd leading cancer killer in the U.S., but it's largely preventable. If you're 50 or older, please get screened.

1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)
www.cdc.gov/screenfortife

Public Notice

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT WILL HOLD A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2010 AT 9:00 A.M. AT THE ADMINISTRATION ANEX BUILDING, OKEECHOBEE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE, SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM, 458 HIGHWAY 98 N., OKEECHOBEE, FL. A COPY OF THE PROPOSED AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED UPON REQUEST FROM THE UNDERSIGNED. IF ANY PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION BY THE BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH MEETING; THAT PERSON WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND FOR SUCH PURPOSES THAT PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, WHICH INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED, IS MADE. ANY PERSON WISHING TO SPEAK AT THE MEETING MUST HAVE THEIR NAME AND TOPIC PLACED ON THE AGENDA ONE WEEK BEFORE THE DATE OF THE MEETING. ALL PROPERTY OWNERS WITHIN THE DISTRICT ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PERSONS NEEDING A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION OR AN INTERPRETER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE DISTRICT'S OFFICES BY CALLING (863)763-4601 AT LEAST TWO (2) DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE MEETING.

NOTICE: COQUINA WATER CONTROL DISTRICT HAS AN ONGOING AQUATIC SPRAYING PROGRAM, DISTRICT WIDE.

WILLARD M. BYARS
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
17429 NW 242ND STREET
OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972
(863)763-4601 OR (863)634-3166
347142 ON 2/28/10

Public Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Okeechobee Utility Authority will meet in regular session on Tuesday March 9, 2010 at 8:30 A.M., at the Okeechobee Utility Authority Offices, 100 SW 5th Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Authority with respect to such meetings, he or she will need a record of proceedings and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made; which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. Such person may provide a court reporter, stenographer, or tape recorder for such verbatim record.

BY ORDER OF THE OKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY

John F. Hayford, P.E.
Executive Director
347393 ON 2/28/10

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 796
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC.,
A Florida Corporation
Plaintiff
v.
SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: SAUL A. GUSTAMA
1299 E. 93RD STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11236

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Complaint for Foreclosure of Mortgage involving real estate located in Okeechobee County, Florida, and legally described as follows:

The E1/2 of the E1/2 of the S1/2 of the S1/2 of Tract 21 Section 25 all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records.
Strap Number(s)
1-25-34-33-0A00-00021-P000

has been filed against you and your are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on KENNETH M. JONES, of Moody, Jones, Ingino & Morehead, P.A., Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201, Plantation, Florida, 33324, within 30 days of first publication, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on 2/23/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON
Clerk of the Court
By: Arlene Nealis
As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201
Plantation Florida 33324
(954) 473-6605
KENNETH M. JONES
Florida Bar No. 142618
347428 ON 2/28;3/7/10

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 797
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC.,
A Florida Corporation
Plaintiff
v.
SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: DANIELLE BERNARD
1299 E. 93RD STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11236

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Complaint for Foreclosure of Mortgage involving real estate located in Okeechobee County, Florida, and legally described as follows:

The E1/2 of the E1/2 of the N1/2 of the N1/2 of Tract 32 Section 26 all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records.
Strap Number(s):
1-26-34-33-0A00-0032-A000

has been filed against you and your are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on KENNETH M. JONES, of Moody, Jones, Ingino & Morehead, P.A., Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201, Plantation, Florida, 33324, within 30 days of first publication, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on 2/23/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON
Clerk of the Court
By: Arlene Nealis
As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201
Plantation Florida 33324
(954) 473-6605
KENNETH M. JONES
Florida Bar No. 142618
347409 ON 2/28;3/7/10

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 795
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC.,
A Florida Corporation
Plaintiff
v.
SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: DANIELLE BERNARD
1299 E. 93RD STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11236

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Complaint for Foreclosure of Mortgage involving real estate located in Okeechobee County, Florida, and legally described as follows:

The W1/2 of the E1/2 of the N1/2 of the S1/2 of Tract 7 Section 25 subject to an easement of the North 30 feet thereof for road and drainage purposes all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records.
Strap Number(s):
1-25-34-33-0A00-0007-J000

has been filed against you and your are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on KENNETH M. JONES, of Moody, Jones, Ingino & Morehead, P.A., Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201, Plantation, Florida, 33324, within 30 days of first publication, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on 2/23/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON
Clerk of the Court
By: Arlene Nealis
As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201
Plantation FL 33124
(954) 473-6605
KENNETH M. JONES
Florida Bar No. 142618
347258 ON 2/28;3/7/10

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 795
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC.,
A Florida Corporation
Plaintiff
v.
SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: DANIELLE BERNARD
1299 E. 93RD STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11236

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Complaint for Foreclosure of Mortgage involving real estate located in Okeechobee County, Florida, and legally described as follows:

The W1/2 of the E1/2 of the N1/2 of the S1/2 of Tract 7 Section 25 subject to an easement of the North 30 feet thereof for road and drainage purposes all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records.
Strap Number(s):
1-25-34-33-0A00-0007-J000

has been filed against you and your are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on KENNETH M. JONES, of Moody, Jones, Ingino & Morehead, P.A., Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201, Plantation, Florida, 33324, within 30 days of first publication, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on 2/23/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON
Clerk of the Court
By: Arlene Nealis
As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201
Plantation FL 33124
(954) 473-6605
KENNETH M. JONES
Florida Bar No. 142618
347258 ON 2/28;3/7/10

Buying a car? Look in the classifieds. Selling a car? Look in the classifieds.

Love the earth Recycle your used items by selling them in the classifieds.

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2009CP235

IN RE: ESTATE OF CLINTON G. MAY, JR.
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of CLINTON G. MAY, JR., deceased, whose date of death was June 19, 2009, is pending in the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 312 Northwest 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is February 21, 2010.

Personal Representative:
Shirley D. May
6430 SE 52nd Street
Okeechobee, Florida 34974

Attorney for Personal Representative:
Thomas H. Thurlow III
Florida Bar No. 0127043
Thurlow, Thurlow & Giachino, P.A.
17 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
P.O. Box 106
Stuart, Florida 34995-0106
Telephone: (772) 287-0980
346637 ON 2/21,28/10

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 795
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC.,
A Florida Corporation
Plaintiff
v.
SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: DANIELLE BERNARD
1299 E. 93RD STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11236

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Complaint for Foreclosure of Mortgage involving real estate located in Okeechobee County, Florida, and legally described as follows:

The W1/2 of the E1/2 of the N1/2 of the S1/2 of Tract 7 Section 25 subject to an easement of the North 30 feet thereof for road and drainage purposes all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records.
Strap Number(s):
1-25-34-33-0A00-0007-J000

has been filed against you and your are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on KENNETH M. JONES, of Moody, Jones, Ingino & Morehead, P.A., Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201, Plantation, Florida, 33324, within 30 days of first publication, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on 2/23/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON
Clerk of the Court
By: Arlene Nealis
As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201
Plantation FL 33124
(954) 473-6605
KENNETH M. JONES
Florida Bar No. 142618
347258 ON 2/28;3/7/10

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 795
DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC.,
A Florida Corporation
Plaintiff
v.
SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD
Defendants

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CASE NO. 2009 CA 795
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SHARON ROBERTSON
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Attorneys for Plaintiff
1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201
Plantation FL 33124
(954) 473-6605
KENNETH M. JONES
Florida Bar No. 142618
347258 ON 2/28;3/7/10

Buying a car? Look in the classifieds. Selling a car? Look in the classifieds.

Love the earth Recycle your used items by selling them in the classifieds.

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the City of Okeechobee Planning Board on Thursday, March 18, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Council Chambers, Rm 200, Okeechobee, Florida. The agenda is available on the City website www.cityofokeechobee.com, or contact the General Services Department, pburnette@cityofokeechobee.com, 863-763-3372 x 217.

Under consideration is Comprehensive Plan Small Scale Future Land Use Map Amendment Application No. 10-002-SSA, submitted by the property owner, D & A Properties, Inc., Anita Nunez, President. For the purpose of changing the Future Land Use designation from Single Family (SF) to Commercial (C) for property located at 310 NE 7th Street. Legal: Lots 1 to 5 of Block 147, City of Okeechobee, as recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 5, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida.

All members of the public are encouraged to attend and participate in said Hearing. The entire application may be inspected during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm, except for holidays.

The Planning Board's role will be to make a recommendation for approval or denial, to the City Council, final adoption is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, 2010.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that if any person desires to appeal any decision made by the Planning Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, or hearing will need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. General Services media are used for the sole purpose of back-up for the department. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the General Services Office at 863-763-3372 for assistance.

BY: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator Application No. 10-002-SSA 347487 ON 2/28;3/10/10

PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED ZONING RECLASSIFICATION

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the City of Okeechobee Planning Board on Thursday, March 18, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Council Chambers, Rm 200, Okeechobee, Florida. The agenda is available on the City website www.cityofokeechobee.com, or contact the General Services Department, pburnette@cityofokeechobee.com, 863-763-3372 x 217.

Under consideration is Rezoning Petition No. 10-001-R, submitted by the property owner, D & A Properties, Inc., Anita Nunez, President. For the purpose of changing the Zoning District, on approximately 0.84 acres, from Residential Single Family-One (RSF-1) to Heavy Commercial (CHV) for property located at 310 NE 7th Street. Legal: Lots 1 to 5 of Block 147, City of Okeechobee, as recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 5, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida.

All members of the public are encouraged to attend and participate in said Hearing. The entire petition may be inspected during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm, except for holidays.

The Planning Board's role will be to make a recommendation for approval or denial, to the City Council, final adoption is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that if any person desires to appeal any decision made by the Planning Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, or hearing will need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. General Services media are used for the sole purpose of back-up for the department. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the General Services Office at 863-763-3372 for assistance.

BY: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator Petition No. 10-001-R 347490 ON 2/28;3/10/10

PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED SPECIAL EXCEPTION

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the City of Okeechobee Board of Adjustment and Appeals on Thursday, March 18, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 55 SE 3rd Ave, Council Chambers, Rm 200, Okeechobee, Florida. The agenda is available on the City website www.cityofokeechobee.com, or contact the General Services Department, pburnette@cityofokeechobee.com, 863-763-3372 x 217.

Under consideration is Special Exception Petition No. 10-002-SE, submitted by property owner, Triple E Management Inc., Emilio Perez, President, to allow mechanical and repair services and an outdoor vehicle sales lot within a CHV Zoning District (Ref. Code Book Section 90-283(7)(18)). Property is located at 601 S. Parrott Ave. Legal: Lots 4 to 6 of Block 229, First Addition to City of Okeechobee, as recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 11, Public Records of Okeechobee County, Florida.

All members of the public are encouraged to attend and participate in said Hearing. The entire petition may be inspected during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm, except for holidays.

The Board of Adjustment and Appeals serves as the decision making body (quasi-judicial), on behalf of the City, to approve or deny Special Exceptions.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that if any person desires to appeal any decision made by the Board of Adjustment and Appeals with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, or hearing will need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. General Services media are used for the sole purpose of back-up for the department. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the General Services Office at 863-763-3372 for assistance.

by: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator Petition No. 10-002-SE 347492 ON 2/28;3/10/10

PUBLIC NOTICE CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED SPECIAL EXCEPTION

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All members of the public are encouraged to attend and participate in said Hearing. The entire petition may be inspected during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm, except for holidays.

The Board of Adjustment and Appeals serves as the decision making body (quasi-judicial), on behalf of the City, to approve or deny Special Exceptions.

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by: Brian Whitehall, Zoning Administrator Petition No. 10-002-SE 347491 ON 2/28;3/10/10

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO. 2009 CA 795 DIVISION: Civil Division

LIVE OAK TRUST, INC., A Florida Corporation Plaintiff

v. SAUL A. GUSTAMA AND DANIELLE BERNARD Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: SAUL A. GUSTAMA 1299 E. 93RD STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11236

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Complaint for Foreclosure of Mortgage involving real estate located in Okeechobee County, Florida, and legally described as follows:

The W1/2 of the E1/2 of the N1/2 of the S1/2 of Tract 7 Section 25 subject to an easement of the North 30 feet thereof for road and drainage purposes all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records. Strap Number(s): 1-25-34-33-0A00-00007-3000

has been filed against you and your are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on KENNETH M. JONES, of Moody, Jones, Ingino & Morehead, P.A., Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201, Plantation, Florida, 33324, within 30 days of first publication, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on Feb. 23, 2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON Clerk of the Court By: Arlene Nealis As Deputy Clerk

MOODY, JONES, INGINO & MOREHEAD, P.A. Attorneys for Plaintiff 1333 S. University Drive, Suite 201 Plantation FL 33324 (954) 473-6605 KENNETH M. JONES Florida Bar No. 142618 347359 ON 2/28;3/7/10

IN THE FAMILY COURT EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT 2010-DR-01

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ABBEVILLE

SUMMONS South Carolina Department of Social Services, Plaintiff,

vs. Tusha Jacobs Alan C. Foley Defendants

In the interests of: Lovie Jacobs DOB: 11/21/96 Elaine Jacobs DOB: 01/07/98 Minors under the age of 18.

TO: ALAN C. FOLEY, DEFENDANT

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the complaint for termination of your parental rights in and to the minor child(ren) in this action, the original of which has been filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Abbeville County, a copy of which will be delivered to you upon request; and to serve a copy of your answer to the complaint upon the undersigned attorney for the plaintiff at 105 W. Pinckney St. Abbeville, SC 29620 within thirty (30) days following the date of service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the complaint within the time stated, the plaintiff will proceed to seek to terminate your parental rights to the above-captioned child

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that you have the right to request the appointment of an attorney to represent you, should you be unable to afford an attorney. If you are financially unable to afford legal counsel, then you should apply to the Clerk of Court for the appointment of counsel to represent you, upon proper showing of indigency. YOU MUST APPLY FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ATTORNEY NO LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER YOU RECEIVE THESE PLEADINGS. IF YOU DO NOT APPLY FOR AN ATTORNEY WITHIN THIS THIRTY DAY PERIOD, AN ATTORNEY WILL NOT BE APPOINTED FOR YOU.

Name: R. Eugene Pruitt, Jr. Attorney for Plaintiff 105 W. Pinckney St. Abbeville, SC 29620 864-366-8900 Fax: 864-366-8902 S.C. Bar No. 4590 Abbeville, South Carolina February 23, 2010 347399 ON 2/28;3/7,14/10

Puzzle Page

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS 1 Iraqi seaport 6 Detriment 10 Dessert chain with Waffle Cone Wednesday 14 Pigment of iron oxide 15 Tolkien brutes 16 Anorak feature 17 See-through 18 Office sub 19 Lodge group 20 Soothe Geronimo's people? 23 Infield bounce 24 "___ first!" 25 Wedding setting 28 Sherman tank, for one? 31 Bygone rulers 34 Strong wagon 35 Crow cousin 36 DOJ employee 37 Spice often added to curries 39 Fiend 40 English site of a royal flush? 41 Hold one's own 42 Massage 43 "If Tarzan's bothering you, speak up!?" 47 Skillful pass 48 Ocean State sch. 49 Doo-wop syllable 52 Speak highly of enclosures? 56 River through Kazakhstan 58 Hanie's "Yeah, man!" 59 Brag 60 Star followers 61 Diamond complement 62 Money with hits 63 Top 64 Letters from Plato 65 Printer acronym

- 33 Era that began with a blast? 37 Montana resource site 38 Press initials 39 Fused 41 Casino delicacy? 42 Either of two notable jumpers 44 Long-winded 45 Book that tells the story of Samson 46 Strip yip 49 Scoots along, as a cloud 50 "Thin Ice" star, 1937 51 Autumn blossom 53 Make changes to 54 Ricci of fashion 55 Zilch 56 She played Emma in "The Avengers" 57 Good thing to beat

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

S T A F F O B A M A U M P
P I X E L P A T E N N E E
E L I Z A B E T H A N L A S
A D O P E R I L B L A S E
K E M O N A K E D A B U T
M R T T E M P E R A
L E A B A I L S L E S
L I N C O L N C E N T E R
C A M E M I T S B I D
A B A N D O N T O C D
R O B E O D E T O B Y A P S
P R E Y S S T R O P L I T
O D A A L P H A B E T I Z E
R A N G O O N Y L I S Z T
T Y S A U T O S T A T A S

xwordeditor@aol.com

15x15 crossword grid with numbers 1-65 indicating starting positions for clues.

By Doug Peterson (c)2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE DIVISION File No. 2009-CP-126

IN RE: ESTATE OF: KENNETH W. SCHWERTGER Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of KENNETH W. SCHWERTGER, deceased, whose date of death was October 9, 2008, and whose Social Security number is 561-84-0561, is the Circuit Court for Okeechobee County, Florida, File No. 2009-CP-126; the address of its Probate Division, 312 N.W. 3rd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmaturing, contingent or unliquidated claims, must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a Complaint for Foreclosure of Mortgage involving real estate located in Okeechobee County, Florida, and legally described as follows:

The E1/2 of the E1/2 of the N1/2 of the N1/2 of Tract 32 Section 26 all in Township 34 South, Range 33 East, Okeechobee County, Florida, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 3 A-D, inclusive of the Okeechobee County Public Records. Strap Number(s): 1-26-34-33-0A00-0032-A000

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WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on 2/23/2010.

SHARON ROBERTSON Clerk of the Court By: Arlene Nealis As Deputy Clerk

Kate Ellen Anthony Personal Representative 8622 150th Court North Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418 WILLIAM J. WALLACE, P.A. Attorney for Personal Representative 115 NW 11th Avenue Okeechobee, Florida 34972 Telephone: 863-467-4671 Florida Bar No.: 778125 346865 ON 2/21,28/10

Reading a newspaper helps you plan your time wisely.



Training exercise stresses safety

By Eric Kopp
Okeechobee News

After the smoke had cleared and the yelling had ceased the female hostage was found to be in good condition, the bad guy was taken into custody and then everyone went to lunch.

That was the scene Friday morning, Feb. 26, as different units from the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) and the Okeechobee City Police Department (OCPD) took part in a training exercise.

The scenario of the exercise was that an OCPD officer had gone to the house at 2103 S.W. Second Ave. to do a welfare check. As the officer went to the house he was shot by an unknown assailant in the home. The officer escaped and notified his department of what had just transpired. It was learned later that the man inside the home was named John Smith. Shortly thereafter the OCSO Special Response Team (SRT) rolled onto the scene. They were joined by OCSO snipers and hostage negotiators. As the snipers donned their Ghillie suits, they and the SRT unit gathered around OCSO Lieutenant Gary Bell. "We have to get ready as soon as we get here before something bad happens," he said. "The object is to get ready as fast as we can."

Once the snipers had taken up their positions around the home, SRT members then threw a telephone through a side window so OCSO negotiators could talk with the armed suspect inside the home. OCSO Detective Rick Durfee was handling the talks with Smith. During the negotiations Smith made various demands, including his desire to speak with Governor Charlie Crist. Detective Durfee told Smith that, unfortunately, he could not meet

that demand. After several minutes Smith said he was done talking and that he was going to "take out" his hostage. Once negotiations had broken down, it was time for the SRT to take over. As they neared the house SRT members threw canisters at the home that exploded and then emitted a dense green smoke that gave the deputies cover.

Those deputies then broke down the front door, stormed inside the home, took down Smith and rescued the female hostage—OCSO Detective Susan Morrison. Everyone then gathered inside the home to talk about the exercise and things that could be improved upon to ensure that the hostage was safely rescued and the deputies could go home to their families.



Okeechobee News/Eric Kopp
Lieutenant Gary Bell (facing), of the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), spoke with members of his Special Response Team and OCSO snipers prior to their taking part in a training exercise Friday, Feb. 26.

1111 S. Parrott Ave,
Okeechobee
863-467-2224

Clock

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2 Senior Dinners
from senior menu
\$11.59
Includes Soup or Salad Ice
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Anytime
7 Days a Week

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
4PM - 11PM

All You Can Eat \$9.99
Fish or Shrimp

Served with Fries and Cole Slaw

Shrimp Fest

Land 'N Sea	\$9.99
Shrimp Scampi	\$7.99
Shrimp Ceasar Salad	\$7.99
Sweet 'N Sour Shrimp	\$7.99
Sweet Alfredo	\$7.99

*All Special served with 2 sides. Soup or Salad,
and complimentary pudding or ice cream*

SPECIALS SERVED
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1. N.Y. Strip Steak
2. Veal Parmigiana with Spaghetti
3. Chicken and Shrimp
4. Grilled Mahi Mahi
5. Hearty Homemade Meatloaf
6. Shrimp Alfredo over pasta

*All Special served with 2 sides. Soup or Salad,
and complimentary pudding or ice cream*

2 Dinners - **\$18.59**
Your Choice

For the Price of one!

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

1. Any Regular Omelette
with Potato, Toast or Pancake
2. County Fried Steak **\$6.39**
with 2 eggs, Potato & Toast

Weekday Lunch Specials

1. Bistro Ham 'N Cheese
2. Turkey Reuben Sandwich
3. Patty Melt **\$5.99**
4. Philly Cheese Steak
5. Golden Fish Fillet Sandwich

All served with fries or onion rings

Hey,
Okeechobee!

50 Fans = \$50 gift certificate

- Each of the first two teams with 50 registered fans by February 28, will receive one \$50 gift certificate from Domino's Pizza. Must be actively reporting game scores, photos, etc. on the site to participate (1 certificate per team)



1. Have your family and friends locate your teams on the Okeechobee SportsNetwork.

2. Click the "Become a Fan" icon  and provide an email address.

3. They have now "Become a Fan" of your team and will receive updates as the stories are posted to the site.



"To visit Okeechobee Sports Network online, go to newszap.com, click on the Okeechobee homepage, then click on the Sports tab in the upper right part of the page"

CommunitySportsDesk
Catch your Community at play